HALF A YEAR BEFORE, A YOUTH ARRIVED AT THE VILLAGE!
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE BEEN TREATED SO KINDLY BY A HUMAN
IT TASTES REALLY GOOD! THE ONIGIRI YOU MAKE IS JUST LIKE THE ONES MY MOM MAKE.
I DEFEATED THE YOUKAI BAREHANDED, AREN'T YOU AFRAID?
NO, I THINK YOU'RE GREAT!

THE YOUKAIS HAVE STARTED INVADING THE NEARBY FOREST, TAKING OVER ALL THE VILLAGES.
IT ISN'T A SURPRISE THIS VILLAGE WILL COME UNDER ATTACK AT ANY TIME.
MY PARENTS WERE KILLED BY YOUKAI 3 MONTHS AGO.
I DON'T HAVE ANY FAMILY LEFT.
YOU ALSO...
DON'T HAVE FAMILY?
IF THAT'S THE CASE, I'LL PROTECT YOU.
EVEN IF IT'S ONLY FOR A SHORT WHILE, I'LL PROTECT YOU AND THE VILLAGE, AND FIGHT THE YOUKAIS.
BUT, YOU...
.....
IT'S ALL RIGHT, SINCE I WON'T LIVE MUCH LONGER ANYWAY.

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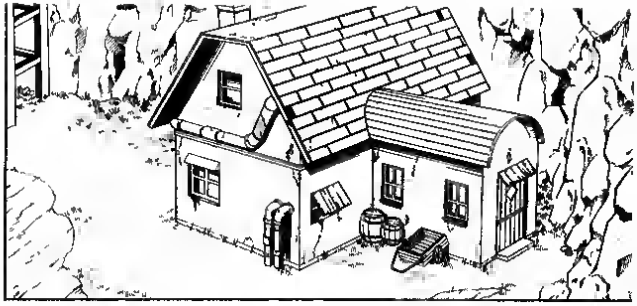
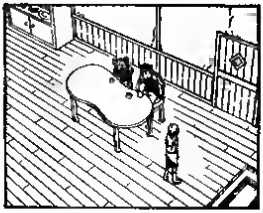
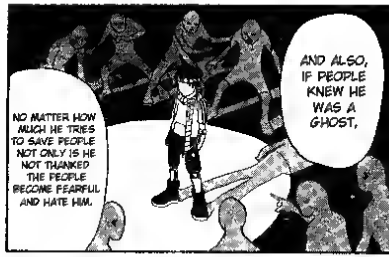


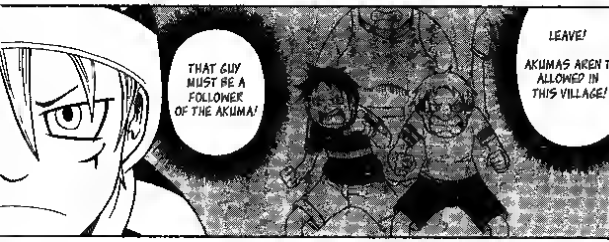
JUST BECAUSE OF THAT, HE'S CONTINUED TO PROTECT THE VILLAGE?



HE HAS SAID THAT BEFORE HE CAME HERE HE HAS HAD A PAINFUL EXPERIENCE
NO, I JUST THINK THAT'S AN EXCUSE.

WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THAT?
IF IT WAS ME, NO MATTER HOW MUCH CHEESE YOU GAVE ME, I STILL WOULDN'T DO A THING AS STUPID AS THAT!
IF A NORMAL PERSON, HAS THE POWER TO DEFEAT A YOUKAI, HIS THREAT WOULD BE GREATER THAN THAT OF THE YOUKAIS
THE NEWEST CHAPTER HOT ON THE MARKET!


NO MATTER HOW MUCH HE TRIES TO SAVE PEOPLE NOT ONLY IS HE NOT THANKED THE PEOPLE BECOME FEARFUL AND HATE HIM.
AND ALSO, IF PEOPLE KNEW HE WAS A GHOST,

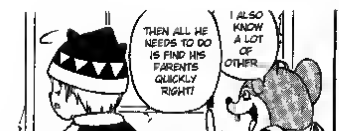

THAT GUY MUST BE A FOLLOWER OF THE AKUMA!
LEAVE! AKUMAS AREN'T ALLOWED IN THIS VILLAGE!

THEY HAPPILY WELCOME HIM INTO OUR VILLAGE, AND THEN—
THE MORE THE VILLAGERS LOVE HIM,

ALL THE VILLAGERS ARE GRATEFUL FOR HIS ENDLESS HELP.
BUT, FOR OUR VILLAGE THAT IS THREATENED BY NEKO-OU...

THE MORE YOUKAI YUUHI DEFEATS,

AH!
SHORT LIFE JUST NOW IT WAS MENTIONED TOO WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?
HE JUST SETTLED DOWN TO LIVE HERE,
UNTIL HIS SHORT LIFE ENDS.
I HEARD ABOUT THIS!
A GHOST'S LIFE, ON AVERAGE IS ONLY 14 YEARS,
AND THEN, IF THEY INHERIT THEIR PARENT'S SOULS, THEN THEY CAN LIVE TILL THE SAME AGE AS HUMANS


THEN ALL HE NEEDS TO DO IS FIND HIS PARENTS QUICKLY RIGHT!
I ALSO KNOW A LOT OF OTHER
OF COURSE I AM A TRAVELLER AFTER ALL IT'S NATURAL THAT I HAVE A WIDE KNOWLEDGE!
YOU KNOW QUITE A LOT!

WHAT?
WE HEARD THEY'VE ALREADY DIED.

HE SAID 6 YEARS AGO IN THE GREAT BATTLE AGAINST THE AKUMA,
ALL THOSE WITH THE BLOODLINE OF THE GHOSTS DIED.

BECAUSE ALONE WAS TOO LONELY, HE CAME HERE.
HE NEVER FOUND THEM, AND THEN,
THAT'S WHY, HE'S TRAVELLED EVERYWHERE LOOKING FOR HIS KIND, BUT
HM
どろん
HE GAVE UP ON HIS OWN GOAL.
SIGH
ANYWAY
ガン
AT THE END HE CAN ONLY FIND A PEACEFUL PLACE TO SPEND THE REST OF HIS LIFE?
AND HE CAN'T FIND ANY OF HIS KIND,
BECAUSE HE'S A GHOST HE WAS ABANDONED,
!

IDIOT!
DON'T BE SO NAIVE!

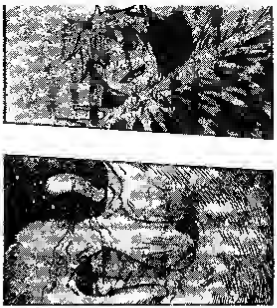
ブン
WE'RE BACK, BOSS!

HOW WAS IT?
TESSHIN, POPO!
AH!
12
HAH!
IT WAS TOO EASY!
WITHIN HALF A DAY WE CONQUERED TWO VILLAGES!
PO!
NEKO-OU'S MILITARY UNIT
FAT POPO
NEKO-OU'S MILITARY UNIT
IRON ARMOUR TESSHIN
AH!
THAT VILLAGE STILL HAS TO BE ATTACKED,
I'M PREPARING NOW FOR THE TRIP.
THE ONLY VILLAGE LEFT IS THE GHOST'S VILLAGE!
ARE WE GOING LATER?
ARE WE GONNA WAIT TILL THAT BASTARD IS ASLEEP?

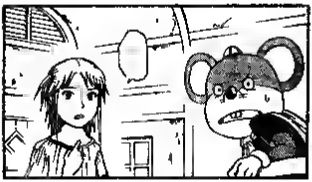
YEAH!
IT'S JUST LIKE YOU BOSS!
YOU WHO ALWAYS CAN'T BE BOTHERED WITH TROUBLE, YOU'RE FINALLY GOING IN PERSON!
PO!
PO!
YEAH!
BOSS NO DOUBT YOU'RE THE DEMON FOREST LEADER!
POww! POww!
IF PEOPLE THINK I'M AFRAID OF THE GHOST AND HAVE RUN, IT'LL RUIN MY REPUTATION.
HAHA!
WITH THIS, ALL 35 VILLAGES AROUND THE 'DEMON FOREST' WILL BE MINE!
WE'LL SEE!

WHAT YOU SAID IS TOO HARSH!
THAT'S RIGHT! SANTA!
NEKO-OU HAS NEVER BEEN ABLE TO ENTER!
AT LEAST OUR VILLAGE IS TRYING IT'S BEST TO FIGHT.
YOU'RE A NORMAL HUMAN, YOU WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND.
THAT'S WHY WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND YUUHI'S FEELINGS.
WE AS YOUKAIS HAVE ALSO BEEN ABANDONED BY HUMANS, BULLIED..
I AM... A NORMAL HUMAN?

I... I TOLD HIM, THAT I WISHED HE'D THINK ABOUT HIS OWN GOAL TOO!
"RIGHT"
IF IT WERE NORMAL PEOPLE, BORROWING YUUKI'S POWER TO PROTECT THE VILLAGE IT'S A NATURAL THING RIGHT!
THEN WHY DO YOU KEEP MAKING ONIGIRI FOR HIM!
ガタ
THAT IS... ONLY A NORMAL MEAL...
EVEN IF YOU THINK THAT WAY
IT'S A DEAL!
!

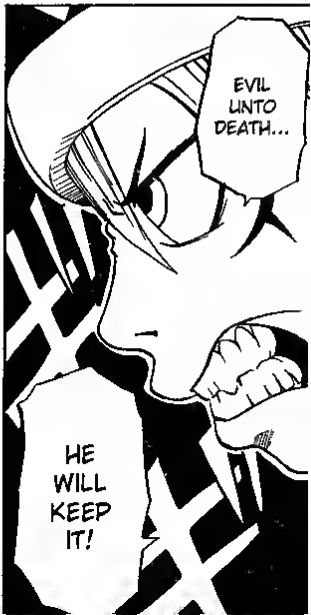


ONCE A REAL MAN HAS MADE A PROMISE...



I HAVEN'T FINISHED MY FIGHT WITH HIM!
HEY... WAIT!
WHERE YOU GOING?
SANTA!

バタン
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN!
HEY!
WAIT!

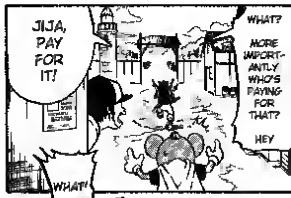

EVIL UNTO DEATH...
HE WILL KEEP IT!

WEAPONS SHOP

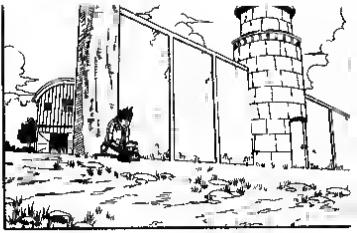
TO DEFEAT THAT GHOST OF COURSE!
BUYING SO MANY SWORDS, WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING?

HEY
HEY!
WAIT!
Sword Fish

I'LL GIVE— GIVE CHEESE TO YOU, THAT'S OK RIGHT?
I'LL BEAT YOU...


JIJA, PAY FOR IT!
WHAT?
MORE IMPORTANTLY WHO'S PAYING FOR THAT?
HEY
WHAT!

AH... UM...



NO OTO-SAN!
DON'T LEAVE!

MY LIFE...
HAS ABOUT HALF A YEAR LEFT I GUESS!

IT'S JUST THAT...
BEFORE I DEFEAT NEKO-OU, I CAN'T LEAVE THIS PLACE.
I DON'T WANT TO GIVE UP,

DON'T LEAVE ME HERE!
I DON'T WANT TO BE ALONE!

PO!
!!
14
!?
ブハッ
OH!
YOU WERE ABLE TO DODGE POPO'S ATTACK!
PO!!

THINGS LIKE RUMORS, ARE SOMETIMES MORE THAN THE TRUTH!
GHOST KID!
BUT!
BY THE LOOKS OF IT, THERE'S NO NEED FOR ME TO ATTACK!
!
NEKO-OJI!
TE...
!?
SHIN!

THE NEKO CROWD HAVE BROKEN THROUGH. THE GHOST A FIGHT TO THE DEATH!
AH!
UGH... WHAT STRENGTH!
MUCH STRONGER THAN ANY OF THE YOUKAIS FROM BEFORE!
ぐい
ぷるぱ
I'LL TAKE HIS HEAD IN ONE BREATH!
I'LL SHOW YOU!
HAH!
SO THE SO-CALLED 'GHOST' IS ONLY UP TO THIS LEVEL!
THE NEWEST VOLUME 1 ON THE MARKET!

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魔 SANTA！童